

## ESCAPED SINKING.

THE TOLCHESTER COLLIDES WITH A BALTIMORE PILOT-BOAT.

The Former Pilot Damaged—The Pilot Not Seriously—Water Over the Norfolk Wharves—Bowden Arraigned.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)  
NORFOLK, Va., October 27, 1890.  
At an early hour yesterday morning, while it was still dark, the steamer Tolchester, bound from Baltimore to New York, was in collision with the Maryland steam pilot-boat Pilot just off Cape Henry. The Tolchester was struck on the starboard side and had all joiner-work down to the guards torn off for twenty feet or more. Her machinery was not injured, and she arrived in port yesterday afternoon looking very badly wrecked. The Pilot had her forward bulkhead smashed in and is now in a perilous position. No one was hurt on either vessel. It is said that both vessels were sinking, but the Tolchester was recently sold to New York parties and she was being taken to that port to be delivered. She is now at Graves' shipyard.

A NON-EAST SQUALL.

A thunder squall came up about noon yesterday, and was followed by a north easterly and hard rain last night. At high water the tide rose over the wharves and flooded the streets, running into some of the warehouses and floating the wood and lumber adjacent to the river. Not much loss resulted, however, though the water was higher than at any time since the memorable storm of 1887. The wind is high to the north and easterly. The wrecked engines and trains in the smash-up caused by a collision on the R.R. river division of the Seaboard and Norfolk railroad last Thursday, have been brought down to the company's shops in Portsmouth. It has been a long time since the Seaboard road experienced such a wreck.

BOWDEN'S HAIRD BOARD.

The Maryland wing of the Republican party have issued an address to the Republicans of Norfolk county arraigning Congressman Bowden as the bitter and implacable foe of Norfolk county generally, for creating discord in the party, making promises which he has not fulfilled, diverting the party from the path of progress, attempting to set up his personal friends as leaders regardless of the wishes of the people, and for disfranchising the voters of three precincts because Democratic outcasts. The address is signed by twenty-four prominent white and colored Republicans of the county, who claim that Bowden has misled them and injured the party and must be defeated at the polls.

RECEIVED.

Keeper J. L. Odell, of the Cape Henry Light-house, has been appointed to the position of health officer.

An effort is being made to get Governor D. B. Hill, of New York, to speak here next Monday night in behalf of Dr. Lawson.

The storm yesterday interfered with the Murphy meeting, as they were largely attended. Nevertheless, Mr. Murphy will remain here another week. The funeral of Lieutenant F. J. Simmons, U. S. R. M., took place from St. John's church in Portsmouth this morning, Rev. J. D. Powell, the rector, conducting the service.

The funeral of Mrs. Thompson, is in the city and speaks very encouragingly of Democratic success in that county next week.

EFFECT OF THE STORM.

The schooner P. J. Woodruff, from Baltimore to Salem, and the L. Q. C. Wishart and A. C. Lyons are in port to supply spars and anchors lost during the late storm.

Last night a difficulty occurred on Queen street near the Peoples' Tabernacle, in the course of which Charles Bell, a resident of Huntersville, was cut in three or four places by another young man named Lyons.

SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Report of the Committee on Colportage—Response to the Secretary's Address.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)  
STANTON, Va., October 27, 1890.  
After the musical entertainment at Miss Baldwin's school, to which the members were invited, the synod at 9 P. M. resumed its business. Dr. Campbell presented the report of the Committee on Colportage. Owing to sickness, the colporters appointed to do the work did not appear. On the recommendation of this committee Mr. Hamlin H. Epps, of Nottoway, was appointed colporteur.

This committee reported the following response to the address of Dr. Hazen:

1. The synod has heard with great pleasure the address of the Secretary, its publication, and can but express its gratitude to God for the able and successful management of this enterprise.

2. We would especially call the attention of our presbytery to the fact that the management of the committee is commendable, so that all the contributions of the churches are now used for benevolent objects.

3. We would urge upon the presbytery the importance of this work and the vital importance of the committee in the distribution of religious literature, largely in the support of a system of colportage by which this literature is disseminated both among our own people and those destitute of Gospel privileges.

4. The synod is gratified to learn that there has been a large increase in the circulation of *The Earnest Worker* and *The Children's Friend* and again commends these valuable publications to the use of all our Sunday schools.

5. The synod would also call attention to the fact stated by the Secretary that our committee now sells its books, whether published by themselves or others, at a discount of 30 per cent. to churches and Sunday schools.

SYNODICAL EVANGELIZATION.

The report on synodical evangelization was taken up as unfinished business. Resolutions were adopted, and the plan of action elicited an animated discussion. There was difference of opinion as to whether the synod should appoint evangelists or leave this wholly to the synod. All the speakers approved the provision in the resolution that evangelists should always be under the control of the presbytery within which they may labor.

After amendment the resolutions were adopted as follows:

1. That no acceptor with joy these gifts and pledges itself to raise at least \$5.00 for this work.

2. That a committee be appointed to report this amount to the churches; that it may be raised by a special collection annually on the third Sabbath of November; that the collection is not to be made by the churches, but by the synod, and that the committee be authorized to elect its treasurer.

3. That a committee be appointed consisting of five members, whose duty it shall be to have general oversight of the work, to secure the contributions, disburse the same according to the circumstances of each presbytery, as furnished through its Home-Mission Committee; that to this committee be delegated the authority to select the evangelists; that the evangelists shall only labor in those presbyteries which either in open session or through their Home-Mission Committee, request their services; that the work is to be among the weak and dependent churches of the synod and in destitute regions where we have no organization; that each presbytery direct

## THE WALKER MURDER

THE CASE TO BE CONSIDERED BY A SPECIAL SURRY GRAND JURY.

Candidate Lawton and Commissioner Whitehead to Speak—Johnson's Doom—A Prospective City.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)  
PETERSBURG, Va., October 27, 1890.  
A special grand jury has been summoned for the County Court of Surry, to be held to-morrow, and among the cases docketed for its consideration is that of Orney Briggs, who is charged with the murder of David Walker at Claremont several weeks ago. Should the grand jury return a true bill the case will probably be promptly tried. A plea of self-defense will be entered. Messrs. Davis & Melville, of this city, have been retained as counsel for the defense. The particulars of the killing have heretofore been published.

DEMOCRATIC SPEAKING.

Dr. Lawson, the Democratic candidate for Congress in the Second district, and Hon. Thomas H. Johnson, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State, are expected to speak at Surry Courthouse to-morrow. The Republicans are very much divided in this county as between the two candidates—Bowden and Murchison—and the county is safe for the Democratic plurality. In the handsomely Democratic campaign it gave between two and three hundred majority for Governor McKinney.

MORTUARY REPORT FOR OCTOBER.

The Health Officer's report showed that during the month ending October 24th there were 38 deaths in this city. Of these 13 occurred among the whites and 25 among the colored population. There were twelve deaths of children under five years of age. The deaths were caused by the Health Officer and eight not included in the above number. Rate of mortality of the whole population, 18.24 per 1,000 per annum; of the white, 13.27; of the colored population, 23.07 per 1,000 per annum.

RECEIVED HIS OWN DEATH.

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A PLAY-HOUSE OUT OF A CHURCH.

Meanwhile, the boom started, there was much activity in real estate in the town. A company of citizens has purchased the old Methodist church, and is enlarging it and transforming it into a handsome and commodious opera-house. The new building will be fitted up in good style, while underneath there will be a bowling-alley. Unfortunately the foundation of the front wall was so badly constructed that this wall, nearly completed, has to be torn down and rebuilt. The builder will doubtless be sued for damages.

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The Methodists are building on Main street a handsome brick church about seventy feet square. The front is of pressed brick. The audience room and lecture-room are both on the ground floor. Out on the south end of Main street Mr. John Laird has recently completed a large brick building, which he is now erecting a handsome residence, while Mrs. P. J. Allan and Mr. G. B. Larrier have enlarged and improved their respective homes.

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In the midst of all these improvements we have still the same old dirty, disagreeable, ugly, and ridiculously small court-house and clerk's office. These buildings would be a disgrace to the city, and certainly ought to be no longer tolerated in so fine a city as Petersburg. Besides, the recent activity in real estate in this county has so increased the business of the clerk's office that there will have to be a new building ere long. If for no other purpose than to hold deeds during the month of September, 1891, the clerk's office will have to be a new building.

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is from Auburn, N. Y., and a well-known inventor, formerly residing in this city. Mrs. Ward is the widow of John Henry, of Asheville, N. C., one of the leading men of his State and a descendant of Patrick Henry. Mrs. Henry, a Miss Alexander, of Virginia. Alexandria was founded by her ancestors. At the wedding she was attended by her youngest daughter, Miss Nettie Henry. Her eldest daughter, and only son were prevented by sickness from being in attendance.

A GREAT LACK OF INTEREST.

Hume's Weakness in Fausquier—General Hunt and Others on the Stump.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)  
WARRENTON, Va., October 26, 1890.  
The campaign for Governor in this district has been opened with considerable vim, but still there is great lack of interest in the people at large, which is hard to be accounted for, and the fear is that on election-day there will not be a good turnout and a large vote polled. However, the county is very strong for General Lee. The negroes take no interest here and many are going to vote for Lee. The northern end is practically a unit as far as the white people are concerned, the majority of the white Republicans having declared for Lee. The only Union strength lies in the lower end of the county, where some dissatisfaction for Lee is known to exist, but which may be healed by the 4th of November.

PLATFORM ORATORS.

On Friday night Hon. James V. Broome, of the United States Senate, addressed the Democratic club of the town, and yesterday Messrs. Eppa Hunt, R. Randolph Hicks, and Henry Fairfax addressed a fair audience at the small town of Orleans, in the upper part of the county. On Monday night, James L. Gordon, of Charlottesville, expected here with great plaudits, and the people here will hear him last night, and a large audience is expected, since it is a cotillion, and the farmers have a way of coming to town on such occasions, crop or no crop. John W. Daniel has also promised to give us a speech next week, so altogether we are having a pretty lively fight.

SENATOR HAZEN'S SUCCESSOR.

Mr. Henry Fairfax, of Loudoun, who was recently nominated at the Middleburg caucus to succeed the late Mr. Henry Hinton, Jr., at the Democratic club of the town, and yesterday Messrs. Eppa Hunt, R. Randolph Hicks, and Henry Fairfax addressed a fair audience at the small town of Orleans, in the upper part of the county. On Monday night, James L. Gordon, of Charlottesville, expected here with great plaudits, and the people here will hear him last night, and a large audience is expected, since it is a cotillion, and the farmers have a way of coming to town on such occasions, crop or no crop. John W. Daniel has also promised to give us a speech next week, so altogether we are having a pretty lively fight.

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## WOMAN IN THE CASE.

A COLD-BLOODED MURDER IN NORTH DANVILLE.

Followed by Threats of Lynching—George Lasby Shot and Killed by His Wife's Paranoiac, Jim Lyles.

(Special Telegram to the Dispatch.)  
DANVILLE, Va., October 27.—The colored people of North Danville are considerably excited over what appears to be a cold-blooded murder which was committed there about 2 o'clock Sunday morning, and there has been serious threats of lynching the murderer. Jim Lyles is the murderer and George Lasby is the victim. There is a woman in the case, and she is the wife of the murdered man.

GRAVE SUSPICIONS.

For some time past Lyles has been paying attention to Lasby's wife, and Lasby believed they were criminally intimate. On Saturday night Margaret Lasby, the woman, Mary Dinkins, Jim Lyles, and George Watkins went to a party in the neighborhood and did not return until a late hour. The party went to Lasby's house, on the premises of Mr. E. F. Hinton.

SHOT AND KILLED.

Arrived at the gate Watkins left and the Dinkins woman went into the house where Lasby was asleep, while the Lasby woman and Lyles remained at the gate. Soon after this Lasby went out of the house, but had hardly left the door when a shot was fired from the dark, and he reeled, staggered into the house, and fell. The last words being "Lyles has killed me."

ACIDENTALLY SHOT HIMSELF.

The women went to Mr. Brown's house, acrossed the family, and stated that Lasby had accidentally shot himself. At the coroner's inquest yesterday the women both testified to this effect, but the Chief of Police believed that Lyles had something to do with the killing and placed him under arrest. Margaret Lasby was also arrested as accessory.

STRONG TESTIMONY.

A preliminary trial was held to-day, and something of a sensation was made when the Dinkins woman testified that she saw the shot fired. Her testimony was that she shot Lyles and Margaret at the gate when she went into the room; that she saw the woman, Margaret, take the shot, and called him out into the house, and that she saw Lyles raise a pistol and shoot Lasby to death, and that she and the other woman then agreed to tell the story about the accidental shooting.

THE WIFE'S STATEMENT.

Margaret Lasby then took the stand and told substantially the same story. She said her husband chided her for having gone out with Lyles to a frolic and asked her to go out into the yard that he might talk to her about it; that she had said that she would go, and that she saw Lyles take the shot, and called him out into the house, and that she saw Lyles raise a pistol and shoot Lasby to death, and that she and the other woman then agreed to tell the story about the accidental shooting.

SENT ON TO THE GRAND JURY.

Lyles was sent on to the grand jury for the murder of Lasby, and Margaret Lasby was also sent on as accessory. The colored people are highly incensed at the murder.

THUNDER AND HAIL.

There was a severe thunder-storm here yesterday, accompanied by a considerable fall of hail.

REVERSED THE ENGINE.

The Trains Stopped Not Over Two Yards Apart—A Brave Colored Fireman.

STANTON, Va., October 27, 1890.  
A few years ago there was a number of colored firemen working engines on what is now the James River division of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway, and the same was the case on several other railroads in Virginia. The firemen were known as "squeezed" by the majority of them. But on the first named road there is yet one colored fireman only, and he is "there to stay" until death, disability, or voluntary change causes him to leave.

The wreck was averted at Manteo, a station eighteen miles west of Scottsville, and the occurrence was in the spring several years ago.

THE WRECK ADVERTISED.

Tornan now resides in Scottsville and your correspondent took down his statement and later had it confirmed by an employee of the road, who was on one of the trains saved. Tornan was pulling the engine No. 24, which was pulling the train that was wrecked. This train had orders to work at a certain point until a certain time, but the conductor allowed it to remain longer than the time designated and then pulled out going west around a curve in the track. Suddenly an on-board extra, making twenty-odd miles an hour, the engineer on the material train, perhaps having only time to remember that absence of body was better than presence of mind, remarked to his fireman, "Tornan, jump for your life," smiting action, the fireman jumped himself, and even to take time to reverse his engine.

AT THE DESERTED POST.

Not so with Tornan, who says he was cool, calm, and collected, and intended to do all he could to prevent a collision. He accordingly went to the engineer's deserted post, reversed the engine, and jumped from the train when the pilot of the approaching engine was so close that he could not stop. The engineer on the east-bound train had also reversed his engine, and he and his crew had leaped from the train some engines before Tornan. When the two engines came to a stand they were not two yards apart.

For disobedience of their orders the conductor and engineer of the material train were permanently discharged. The heroism of the colored fireman was duly reported to headquarters, and I am told that Tornan was promised (and the promise recorded) a life position on the railroad.

NOT MUCH OF A POLITICIAN.

Eliha Tornan is a small, very black man; was raised near South Boston, in Halifax county; is a native Yankee, served as fireman on the Richmond and Danville road for eleven years, and has been where he now resides nine years. He is quiet and unobtrusive, deems himself with much propriety, and is snugly living in his humble home with his wife at this place. He is a Republican, but has not taken any active interest in politics to get his transfer from Richmond, where he formerly voted, so as to vote in the coming election.

A XENOPHOBIC GONE.

Mrs. Susan A. Below, whose age was in the nineties, was buried at the Baptist cemetery here yesterday afternoon. She was a remarkable woman, not alone for her advanced age, but by reason of her clearness of vision, and hearing, and often pleasantly engaged herself in handicraft of various kinds. She was a devout Christian (a member of the Disciples Church) and attended preach-

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